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## PRESS RELEASE

# DCR Announces Free Parking for Robinson State Park Day

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

6/04/2019

Department of Conservation & Recreation

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**AGAWAM** — On Saturday, June 15, 2019, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will waive all parking fees for visitors at Robinson State Park in the City of Agawam in honor of this year's Robinson State Park Day. During the upcoming celebration, programming will be offered by the Friends of Robinson State Park. Additionally, visitors are encouraged to participate in self-guided walks and hikes throughout the park, where there are approximately 20 miles of trails, including a segment of the Metacomet-Monadnock trail.

“The Department of Conservation and Recreation is thrilled to offer opportunities for residents and newcomers to explore Massachusetts parklands, the ninth largest state parks system in the United States,” **said DCR Commissioner Leo Roy.** “Robinson State Park Day will provide healthy activities for everybody to get outside, and make memories in their local state park.”

“As the Mayor of Agawam, I feel honored and privileged that we have this wonderful resource, Robinson State Park in our community,” **said Mayor William P. Sapelli**. “I greatly appreciate the cooperation of the Department of Conservation and Recreation relating to waiving the park entrance fee on June 15, 2019 for our annual celebration. The Friends of Robinson State Park will be organizing several events in the park that will promote this wonderful asset and encourage individuals to take full advantage of this facility.”

Originally developed in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps, Robinson State Park offers visitors recreational opportunities, such as a swimming pond, multiple picnic areas, open fields, and hiking trails. The 1,025 acre park serves as a significant day-use recreation facility for Agawam, Westfield, West Springfield, and surrounding communities. Furthermore, the park is a popular bird watching and wildlife spotting destination.

“Come celebrate the wild and beautiful: Robinson State Park Day! We are thrilled to be hosting a full day of awesome science and nature activities for the whole family. Come learn about all the wildlife in the park and why it’s important to conserve it! Bring a blanket and a picnic lunch too,” **said Nancy Bobskill, Friends of Robinson State Park**.

Daily parking fees at Robinson State Park are active from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and are \$8 for Massachusetts residents/\$15 for non-Massachusetts residents, which is determined by the vehicle license plate. For more information about Robinson State Park, please visit the park’s [webpage \(/locations/robinson-state-park\)](/locations/robinson-state-park).

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## Department of Conservation & Recreation

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DCR manages state parks and oversees more than 450,000 acres throughout Massachusetts. It protects, promotes, and enhances the state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

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